

HISTORY OF STATISTICS AT THE
40TH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE
WARSAW 1-9 SEPTEMBER 1975

For the first time since the founding of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1885, the program of a regular biennial meeting of the ISI included a session devoted entirely to history. This session, "History of the theory of statistics", arranged by R. L. Plackett (University of Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K.), featured three addresses: "Bienaymé", by C. C. Heyde and E. Seneta (CSIRO and Australian National University, Canberra, Australia); "The transition from point to distribution estimation", by S. M. Stigler (University of Wisconsin, USA); and "J. Kepler as a statistician", by O. B. Sheynin (Moscow, USSR). There was invited discussion by Sir Maurice Kendall (U.K.) and C. Eisenhart (USA); and further comments by P. M. G. Levy (Belgium). The papers and their discussions will appear in the Proceedings of the 40th Session of the ISI (Bulletin of the ISI, Vol. 46) to be published by the Central Statistical Office of Poland.

A special supplementary meeting was held in honor of Adolphe Quetelet, with three presentations: "Lambert-Adolphe Quetelet (1796-1874) savant universel et père de la statistique moderne", by G. Als (Statec, Luxembourg); "Statistical ideas of Adam Smith with special regard to Quetelet", by R. A. Horvath (Jozsef Attila University, Szeged, Hungary); and "L'héritage de Quetelet ou l'illusion mathématique", by P. M. G. Levy (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium). These three papers were published (on pages 21-27, 392-400, and 522-526, respectively) in the volume of Contributed Papers issued to registered participants and will be republished in the just mentioned Proceedings which may be purchased for 120 Dutch florins from the Permanent Office of the International Statistical Institute, 428 Prinses Beatrixlaan, Voorburg, Netherlands.

C. S. PEIRCE BICENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
JUNE 16 - 20, 1976

The Congress was held in Amsterdam. Its president was Max H. Fisch, and the organizing committee was headed by Carolyn Eisele, chairman, and Kenneth Ketner, Secretary.

Among the many papers, those most related to mathematics were "Peirce as scientist, mathematician, logician, and philosopher" by M. H. Fisch, "Peirce's critique of Cantorian set theory" by Joseph Dauben, "Peirce on probability" by Richard W. Miller, "Peirce's definitions of continuity" by Vincent G. Potter and Paul Shields, "Modern mathematical exactitude in Peirce's doctrine of exact philosophy" by Carolyn Eisele, and "Peirce and Frege's system of notation" by Benjamin S. Hawkins, Jr.